

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/705,999

Examiner

TISHA D. LEWIS

Applicant(s)

MA ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the application filed on November 12, 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

The following is a first action on the merits of application serial no. 10/705,999, filed on November 12, 2003.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement filed on January 16, 2004 has been acknowledged.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

- In claim 1, line 22, "and" has been deleted.
- In claim 3, line 1, "a" has been deleted.
- In claim 7, line 25, "and" has been deleted.
- In claim 10, line 2, "are" has been changed to --is--.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-20 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record does not disclose or render obvious a motivation to provide for:

-(As to claim 1) a transmission mechanism for driving four wheels having a driving power input shaft connected with a motor, a first driving power input gear

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mounted on the input shaft, a first slidable engaging member mounted on the input shaft, a second driving power input gear mounted on the input shaft, a first differential having a first ring gear engaged to the first driving gear, a second differential having a second ring gear engaged to the second driving gear, a first and second core shaft passing through the first and second differentials, a second slidable engaging member connecting the first and second core shafts, a first gear mounted to a second shaft sleeve of the first differential, a second gear mounted to a fourth half shaft sleeve of the second differential, a first gear shaft engaged to the first gear to drive a wheel decelerator, a second shaft engaged to the second gear to drive a wheel decelerator and a first and second connecting member connected with the first and second core shafts to drive a wheel decelerator in combination with all the limitations of claim 1.

-(As to claim 7) a transmission mechanism for driving four wheels having a driving power input shaft connected with a motor, a first driving power input gear mounted on the input shaft, a first slidable engaging member mounted on the input shaft, a second driving power input gear mounted on the input shaft, a third slidable engaging member mounted on the input shaft, a first differential having a first ring gear engaged to the first driving gear, a second differential having a second ring gear engaged to the second driving gear, a first and second core shaft passing through the first and second differentials, a second slidable engaging member connecting the first and second core shafts, a first gear mounted to a second shaft sleeve of the first differential, a second gear mounted to a fourth half shaft sleeve of the second differential, a first gear shaft engaged to the first gear to drive a wheel decelerator, a

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second shaft engaged to the second gear to drive a wheel decelerator and a first and second connecting member connected with the first and second core shafts to drive a wheel decelerator in combination with all the limitations of claim 7.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

-Kobayashi ('068), Rundle ('504), Arocha ('862), Perlin ('125), Weismann et al ('359), Hiraiwa ('953), Wojcikowski ('257), Green ('799) and DE 3125612A1.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TISHA D. LEWIS whose telephone number is 703-305-0921. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Thur 8 AM TO 3 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, CHARLES A. MARMOR can be reached on 703-308-0830. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Tdl
October 31, 2004


TISHA LEWIS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
AU 3681 10/31/04